U.S. Embassy Dakar, Senegal

Security Message for U.S. Citizens: Possible Demonstrations PDS Headquarters on the VDN, Place de l'Obelisque, The Palais de Justice of Dakar (the regional Court of Dakar, near the Japanese embassy), Area surrounding UCAD, Place de l'Independence March 23, 2015

The U.S. Embassy in Dakar, Senegal informs U.S. citizens that the verdict in the Karim Wade case before the CREI (court for the repression of illicit enrichment) is expected to be announced on March 23. There may be demonstrations in Dakar in response. Possible locations are the Senegalese Democratic Party (PDS) Headquarters on the VDN, Place de l'Obelisque, the Palais de Justice of Dakar (the regional Court of Dakar, near the Japanese embassy), the area surrounding the Cheikh Ante Diop University (UCAD), Place de l'Independence, and possibly other areas throughout Dakar.

Even demonstrations intended to be peaceful can turn confrontational and escalate into violence. You should avoid areas of demonstrations, and exercise caution if in the vicinity of any large gatherings, protests, or demonstrations.

As always, please remember to review your personal security plans; remain aware of your surroundings, including local events; and monitor local news stations for updates. Maintain a high level of vigilance and take appropriate steps to enhance your personal security and follow instructions of local authorities.

We strongly recommend that U.S. citizens traveling to or residing in Senegal or Guinea-Bissau enroll in the <u>Department of State's Smart Traveler Enrollment Program (STEP)</u>. STEP enrollment gives you the latest security updates, and makes it easier for the U.S. embassy or nearest U.S. consulate to contact you in an emergency. If you don't have Internet access, enroll directly with the nearest U.S. embassy or consulate.

Regularly monitor the <u>State Department's website</u>, where you can find current <u>Travel Warnings</u>, <u>Travel Alerts</u>, and the <u>Worldwide Caution</u>. Read the <u>Country Specific Information for Senegal and neighboring countries</u>. For additional information, refer to the <u>Traveler's Checklist</u> on the State Department's website.

Contact the U.S. embassy or consulate for up-to-date information on travel restrictions. You can also call 1-888-407-4747 toll-free in the United States and Canada or 1-202-501-4444 from other countries. These numbers are available from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Eastern Time, Monday through Friday (except U.S. federal holidays). Follow us on Twitter and Facebook to have travel information at your fingertips.

SMS Messaging System: If you would like to also receive emergency, security, and significant traffic information via SMS/text messages, please email DakarACS@state.gov with the subject "SMS MESSAGING" and we will send you information on how to enroll.

The U.S. Embassy in Dakar is located on Route des Almadies and is open from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and Fridays from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. If you are a U.S. citizen in need of urgent

assistance, the emergency number for the U.S. Embassy is +221 33 879 4444 and ask to speak to the duty officer. You can stay in touch and get Embassy updates by checking the U.S. Embassy website or sending an email message to DakarACS@state.gov.